



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 29, 2008

**MAYOR JERRY SANDERS
PRESS RELEASE**

**CITY WATER, STORM DRAIN SYSTEMS NOT INVOLVED
IN MUDSLIDE LAST NIGHT**

Last night, a backyard hillside on private property set off what City geologists call a “debris flow” onto adjacent property. This was not a landslide and is unrelated to the ancient landslide site on Soledad Mountain Road that reactivated last October.

It appears that the backyard was saturated from the weekend rains, causing a portion of the hillside to give way and allowing mud to fall onto property below.

City staff has determined that there are no City water mains in the area of the debris flow and that water mains serving houses in the area are along the City streets, not in private backyards. City staff also determined that the storm drain system in the area was not blocked and was effectively channeling water away from the property affected by the debris flow.

When the slide occurred, a number of private sprinkler lines broke and water sprayed in the backyard. The Fire department turned off water to the house, and assisted the homeowner in locating the shutoff valve for the sprinkler system so that water service could be restored.

There are no evacuations or other restrictions for access to properties in the area. There was no damage to the houses downslope from the mudslide though they will have to contend with the mess left behind by the mud itself.

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